

## 'Friendship 7' Travels

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were repeated in almost every city, Englishmen wanted to know why the capsule was black, what we learned from Glenn's flight, what problems Glenn had, and in addition asked detailed questions such as "What was the speed of the capsule when the drogue chute opened?"

Schoolboys, students, workmen in overalls with lunch boxes under their arms, businessmen carrying briefcases, youths in leather jackets and jeans, and elderly ladies with the morning's shopping in string bags thronged to the Science Museum for the display.

Snags of a strictly terrestrial nature sometimes upset the progress of the two-ton machine. Each of the capsule's orbits took about 68 minutes, but its progress from the RAF station at Bovington, Hertfordshire, where it was flown in by a U.S. Air Force Globemaster from the U.S., to the Science Museum in South Kensington where it was on display, took three hours. Part of the trouble was a loose wheel on the capsule trailer.

At the Palais De La Decouverte in Paris, the spacecraft had to be lifted through a window on the second floor of the building, but the operation was accomplished with no difficulty. About 30,000 visitors saw the display, and interest was again strong.

Said Johnston, "General reaction was excellent. The display is impressing a lot of people—doing us a lot of good." In France the language barrier furnished some difficulty not encountered in London, but writeups in the French press indicated satisfaction.

In Madrid, Spain, 40,000 Spanish citizens viewed the display, forming a line nearly a mile long May 27. The crowds were so heavy that the authorities had to call out mounted police to handle them, although there were no incidents.

Leaving Spain, the display toured through Accra, British W. Africa; Lagos and Kano, Nigeria; Cairo, Egypt, Istanbul, Turkey; and Karachi, Pakistan, before reaching Bombay last weekend. As you read this, it is probably in route to Colombo, Ceylon and the final month of overseas appearances.

The tour closes Aug. 2 in Seoul, Korea, the final overseas appearance before transportation back to the U. S. and Seattle.

## UNC Sociologist

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of Appalachian Governors, as well as a member of the National Public Advisory Committee on Area Redevelopment. U. S. Department of Commerce.

Dr. Simpson won three campaign stars for three years duty aboard a destroyer during World War II was discharged from the U. S. Navy bearing the rank of Lieutenant.

He is the author of several articles and a monograph, as well as a book, "The Cokers of North Carolina," a social biography of a family published by the University of North Carolina Press in 1955.

Dr. Simpson, on leave from the University of North Carolina, is married to the former Louise Hartsell of Concord, North Carolina, and is the father of two sons, George L., III, 17 and Joe, 11.

## Northrop Readies For Development Of Landing System

Northrop Corporation's Ventura Division is mobilizing forces for work on the development and production of the Apollo spacecraft's parachute landing system, according to a release last week.

Northrop was among four companies named late in December by North American Aviation's Space and Information Systems Division as subcontractor's for the Apollo craft. Approximate value of the finalized, delivered system is expected to be more than \$5 million.

Total number of manufacturing and engineering personnel involved will be 127 engineers, technicians, experimental parachute technicians, parachute and general production workers, planners, tool makers and quality control experts.

Facilities to be utilized will include the project engineering and production facility of the Ventura Division, the El Paso facility for fabricating the main parachutes and all soft goods, the Norair Hawthorne and Nortronics Anaheim Division facilities in data processing equipment, if required, in-flight test facilities at the El Centro, Calif., test range, and textile labs.

## Organization Rights

(Continued from Page 1)

dissemination of union communiques, the use of duty time in union activities, and other general provisions. He also pointed out the availability of the NASA grievance procedure to all employees whether members of organized groups or not.

## Six Management Interns Due To Start Training July 2

Six more persons will enter the management internship program at MSC by July 2, bringing the total of management intern trainees to seven.

One, Kenneth I. Jeffries, is presently working in the Program Analysis and Evaluation Office, nearing the end of his six-months of rotational training.

Management interns spend six months rotating to various offices and divisions of the Center, spending a month in the larger ones such as Financial Management and Personnel, and from a few days to a week or two in others.

At the end of the six months they are assigned to a particular office for another half-year of specialized training.

They are picked from among graduates in public or business administration or in political science, most of whom have graduate degrees.

Included in the group coming in in July are Miss Jerry Ann Penno, a public administration graduate of Syracuse University; Mark A. Johnson, who majored in political science at the University of Minnesota; James Richards, public administration major from the University of Texas; Earl S. Young, social science

major at George Washington University; Raymond E. Hassett, University of Maryland; and Paul Liebhadt, Syracuse University.

Commented Jack Lister of the Training Branch: "Rotating them from office to office gives them a chance to find out what they want to specialize in, and acquaints them with all facets of the Center's operations."

## Science Fair Will Exhibit NASA Displays

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has announced that a "Space Science Fair" for students and adults would be held in Cleveland, Ohio next fall.

The Space Science Fair will open in the Public Auditorium Friday, Nov. 23 and conclude on Sunday, Dec. 2. The Cleveland Plain Dealer is co-sponsoring the Space Science Fair as a public service for the community. The ten day fair is designed to bring to the mid-west exhibits representing space technology programs at NASA's 10 centers throughout the nation. It will be open to the public on a free admission basis.

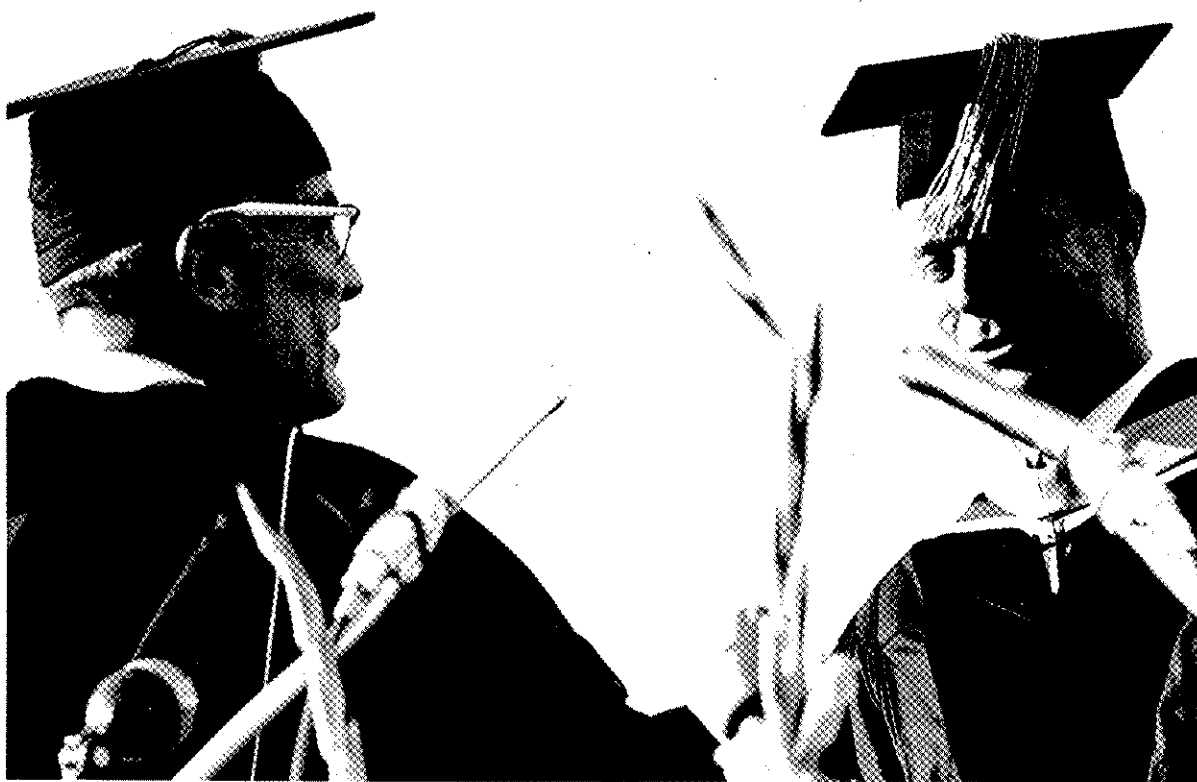
Dr. Abe Silverstein, Director of the Lewis Research Center and Chairman of the Space Science Fair said, "NASA is bringing to Cleveland numerous full-scale exhibits of its scientific programs to acquaint the youth of the mid-west with the nature and scope of our responsibilities. Also, the various educational programs for the fair are designed to explain the exciting career challenges which exist in NASA."

## AGARD Meeting

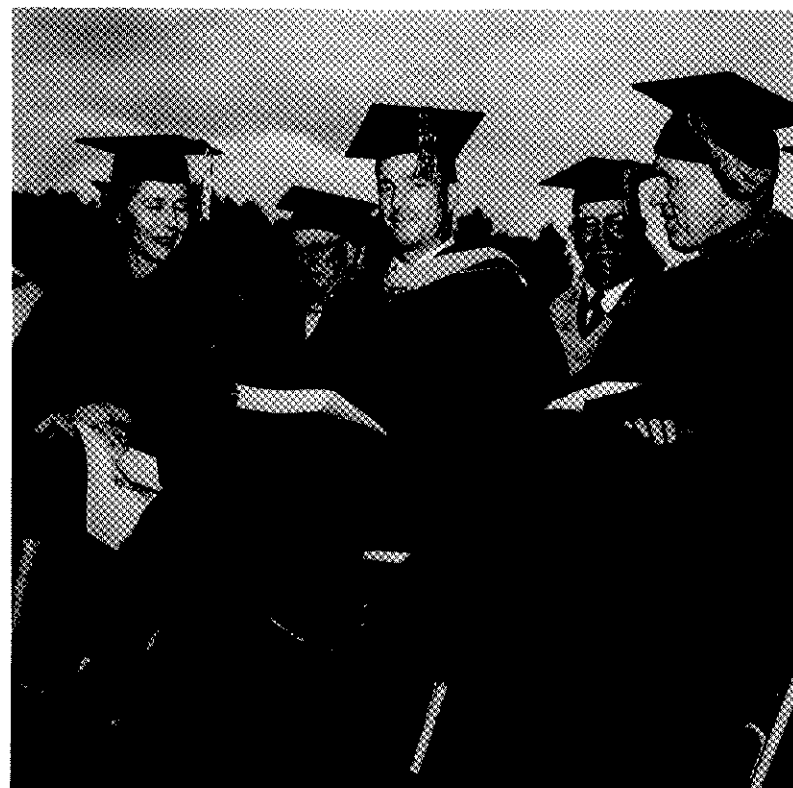
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Headquarters in Paris. The technical theme of this meeting will be *Manned Flight Systems—Past, Present, and Future*. Associate MSC Director Walter C. Williams will deliver a paper at this meeting.

Strass will leave Houston about July 5 by the U.S. Air Force's Military Air Transport Service, and will return about July 16.



QUIGG NEWTON, president of the University of Colorado, congratulates Carpenter upon his receipt of the Norlin Award, given to alumni who have distinguished themselves in their fields, during graduation ceremonies in the University of Colorado's Folsom Stadium. Carpenter wears the traditional cap and gown marked with the orange hood of the engineering school. He was actually awarded his long-delayed degree during his first trip to Boulder, immediately after return from Grand Turk Island and the MA-7 debriefing. However, it was officially conferred during 1962 commencement activities.



PROF. BENJAMIN SPURLOCK, right, marshall of the commencement exercises is also the professor who flunked Carpenter in a heat transfer course in 1949, preventing him from getting a degree in aeronautical engineering at that time. At left is Mrs. Kathryn Hughes of Denver, vice president of the Associated Alumni of the University of Colorado, who presented the Norlin Award.



**ADDRESSING BOULDER HIGH SCHOOL'S** graduating seniors the night of June 7, Carpenter told the students, "You really don't know the riches that await you . . . but they're not going to drop into your lap. You must go get them."



**A CROWD OF SOME 2,500** packed into Macky Auditorium to hear Carpenter give the class of '62 from his Alma Mater a recipe for life. "It is your own responsibility to see that our way of life continues," he said, "and that freedom survives. This is perhaps your greatest responsibility."

## Carpenter Returns To Boulder For Commencement

Astronaut M. Scott Carpenter spent two more hectic days in Colorado June 7 and 8, participating in two commencement exercises, presenting an award at the Martin Company, makers of the Titan missile, and opening a baseball game at Scott Carpenter Park in Boulder.

This second round of festivities followed by only nine days his initial trip to the Boulder-Denver area June 28-30, during which the state celebrated Scott Carpenter Day and the University of Colorado presented the astronaut with a degree in aeronautical engineering.

June 8 Scott Carpenter, in cap and gown, graduated with the class of 1962, 14 years after failure to finish a course in heat transfer prevented his receiving a degree.

The two-day schedule began June 7 when Carpenter addressed 316 graduates and better than 2,000 of their friends and relatives at commencement exercises for Boulder High School, from which he graduated 19 years ago.

Bad weather failed to dampen the occasion and many of the visitors were on hand two hours ahead of the ceremony.

Among the graduates who walked across the stage on which Carpenter sat was Vicki Noxon, his cousin.

In an address which lasted only 19 minutes, Carpenter told the graduates that one of their group could likely land on Mars, and later pointed out ground rules to help them succeed. He preceeded his message with a description of details of his three-hour orbital flight in space May 24 then gave his advice to future spacemen and citizens. He encouraged the class not to be impatient, to be self reliant, to be true to themselves and above all costs to continue and broaden their education.

"We are engaged now in a battle with another ideology for the minds of men, the effects of which may be felt for another 1,000 years. It is your responsibility, whether you like it or not, to see that our God-fearing way of life continues . . . Accept it with determination, courage and resolve, and don't be afraid to risk your own security in order to gain security for your children and your children's children.

"Standing before you is the most fortunate man I have ever known, and yet he stands in awe of the great good fortune

that awaits each and every one of you. I wish you all a full measure of that good fortune."

The following day, Carpenter visited the Martin Company plant near Littleton, makers of the Titan I and Titan II missiles. In a ceremony beneath dark, dripping skies he presented a four-star U.S. Treasury flat to the 8,000 employees, who during the past fiscal year purchased a total of \$4.5 in savings bonds with 94 per cent participation.

He thanked them "for making possible the work we are doing in Project Mercury," referring both to the work done at the plant and the savings bond program. The Titan II missile will be the booster for the two-man Gemini spacecraft to be launched following completion of the current Mercury program.

Returning to Boulder, Carpenter was honored at the Alumni Luncheon at the University of Colorado and then appeared in 4 p.m. commencement ceremonies.

The Boulder-born astronaut appeared in cap and gown before his fellow graduates, 1,821 of them, and an estimated crowd of 10,000 in Folsom Stadium to speak brief words of humility and humor.

He extended his heart-felt

thanks to the University for granting him the degree in aeronautical engineering, the same degree he failed to earn by not taking a final examination in a course on heat transfer in 1943.

At the 4 p.m. exercises he told the class that he had been working on the degree for 20 years, and, because of the difference in age between himself and the seniors, they would have to hurry to get acquainted.

The University gave him the degree before his home-town audience in the same location May 29 during Scott Carpenter Day festivities.

He was attired in the usual black gown and mortar board, with orange tassle and gown trim—the same color orange that trimmed his space suit for his flight May 24.

Clearing skies, following nearly two days of rain, made the exercises perfect for Carpenter, who sat on the platform facing his beloved Boulder mountains.

Earlier in the day he was introduced at the Alumni Luncheon as a recipient of the Norlin Award.

He told them that he felt the award was the greatest thing that had happened to him, and that it was good to be able to

bask in the good graces of the university once more.

Following commencement the Navy lieutenant commander visited with his father and mother, took his mother, Mrs. Florence Carpenter, to her 1922 class reunion at the Boulder Country Club, and later took her to dinner.

His father, Marion S. Carpenter, of Palmer Lake, also attended the reunion as a member of the class.

Following the afternoon ceremonies, Carpenter visited Scott Carpenter Park to throw out the first baseball in opening night ceremonies for Boulder's Kid Leagues.

Making a few remarks to the assembled youngsters, who came from every organized team in Boulder and numbered about 1,000, Carpenter told them "to play according to the rules and to play against your opponent as you want them to play against you."

The elder Carpenter drove his son to the Denver airport to meet the 1 a.m. plane that would take the astronaut to Houston.

Carpenter met with most of his close Boulder buddies Thursday night, following his commencement address before the Boulder High School seniors.

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## Editorial

(reprinted from the Boulder, Col. Camera)

Astronaut Scott Carpenter spoke for a few minutes at Boulder High School graduation Thursday night. His words were simple, direct and brief, the kind of language that goes from the heart of the speaker, goes to the heart of his subject and remains in the hearts of the hearers.

Lt. Cmdr. Carpenter, distinguished space pioneer, one of a handful of men in his field whose names are known around the world, spoke humbly and sincerely—not as a hero but as a grownup high school youth, only a little older than the boys and girls he talked to.

The simplicity of his speech was perhaps misleading, for it was full of quotable truth about life and the things high school graduates can expect to find in life. His remarks had the ring of deep reflection and the authority of experience.

“... your horizons are limited only by your own vision, your contribution to a better world is limited only by your own individual effort, and where you go from here and what you do with your own lives is purely a function of your own determination.”

Scott Carpenter could say that and make it ring true because he had proved it in his own life.

He viewed the world “rich with promise,” but he warned that the riches are “not going to drop into your lap. You have to go get them.”

And then he outlined four ground rules, which are worth repeating and thinking about. Rules that will be of infinite use to young people to the extent that they think about them and adopt them as daily habit. Rules that could serve any person at any age this side of senility.

1. Don't be impatient—all good things take time.

2. Be self-reliant—you are entering a phase in your lives when your parents and your teachers are no longer going to do for you, and if you don't look out for yourselves, nobody else will.

3. Be true to yourselves. When you have decided what is right, then stick to it. When you are asked, “What do you think?” don't parrot the popular answer. Tell them what you think!

4. Continue and broaden your education at all costs, and above all—work at it. It should be the hardest work you will ever do, but if it is, it will be the most rewarding. . .

Rules of personal responsibility. And in this age of conformity and creeping collectivism, the reaffirmation of the dynamics of personal responsibility are more than ever vital.

Some observers complain that the present emphasis on exploring outer space tends to blind our scientific leaders to the need to make our space on earth more habitable through the promotion of human values. Scott Carpenter, for one, gives the lie to that assumption.

He has not lost the human touch, but rather has gained a deep understanding of human values and how they apply in respect to individual responsibility.

Boulder High School graduates—and indeed the whole community—have been made better because of his message as the world of science has gained from his pioneering in space.

—James D. Corriell

## EDITORIAL EXCERPTS

Los Angeles Times  
Saturday, June 9

### ASTRONAUTS ON TETHER SEEN IN SPACE FLIGHTS

by Marvin Miles  
Space-Aviation Editor

Within perhaps three years an astronaut may step out of his orbiting spacecraft as it circles the earth at 17,500 m.p.h.

Weightless, he'll have no feeling of speed in the dark, silent void as the globe rolls slowly beneath him—even though he's traveling at almost five miles a second.

But he'll have to be tethered to his capsule lest he float off into space and be lost on his own individual orbit to die of suffocation.

D. Brainerd Holmes, chief of the U.S. manned space flight program, expects the first such experiment will be conducted from the three-man Apollo capsule now in development at North American Aviation's Space and Information Systems Division, Downey, Calif.

#### Indoctrination First

Apollo is being designed to land man on the moon, but astronauts will first be trained on earth orbit missions starting in 1965—flights that will be extended to 14 days to acquaint the men with capsule operations before they crawl out on their own.

There have been reports that astronaut operations outside the spacecraft are being considered for the two-man Gemini capsule scheduled for late next year, but Holmes says such operations will have to await the more sophisticated capsules of the Apollo project.

Apollo will have an airlock chamber in its conical section through which a man can crawl out of the spacecraft. It will be designed so he can enter the tube in his spacesuit, depressurize its interior and then extend it outside the capsule for space exit.

#### Repairs in Space

It is expected these experiments now under study by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, will lead eventually to an astronaut's capability to make repairs in space, direct orbital docking operations and assemble space observatories.

It also will give the space pilots training toward operations on the airless lunar surface.

Development of a spacesuit for such operations is one of the biggest problems facing NASA, for it not only must give an astronaut his own earth-like environment (pressure, oxygen, heat), but it must also be equipped with some sort of a back-pack container that can eject small thrusts of gas to give him movement within the limits of his tether line.

## MSC PERSONALITY

### Thomas W. Briggs Heads Program Evaluation Office

The 48-year-old chief of MSC's Program Analysis and Evaluation Office is head of a relatively new office with a new job—in fact, he says, “this whole subject is new.”

He is Thomas W. Briggs, a native of Sunderland, Mass. who grew up on Long Island and came to NASA after nearly a quarter century with Douglas Aircraft Corporation in California.

Program Analysis and Evaluation is the office responsible for planning, analysis, scheduling and review of manned space flight programs with an eye on both the clock and the budget. Also involved are integration with other programs, the establishment of a management reporting system, the development of an NASA Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT) and coordination with headquarters in overall system development and installation.

The office was established and Briggs appointed its chief in August of last year.

He is a graduate of Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn) with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1935. In 1936 he joined Douglas Aircraft in Santa Monica, Calif., as a design engineer working on the original DC-4 and the B-18A auto pilot installation. Later he was flight control system engineering group leader on the B-23 bomber and on the A-20 attach series.

By 1942 he was assistant project engineer on the B-26 at the El Segundo, Calif. plant, and was involved in work on the TB2D Navy torpedo bomber two years later.

In 1946, Briggs began project engineering on the Skystreak and Skyrocket research aircraft for the Navy. The Skystreak set a world record for three kilometers of 650 miles per hour, and the Skyrocket, was the first airplane to go to Mach 2 (twice the speed of sound.)

### NASA Group Insurance Plan Shows Another Drop In Premium Rates

The NASA Group Life Insurance Plan administered by the NASA Employees Benefit Association is pleased to announce another reduction in the cost of premiums.

Owing to the successful operation of this program over the past several years, employees throughout NASA are enjoying the security of this low-cost life insurance.

If you are not covered by this insurance plan, contact Robert C. Leezer in Financial Management, telephone WA 8-2741, extension 1193, for information on how you may join. MSC personnel at Cape Canaveral should contact Mary

In 1947, Briggs became project engineer at Edwards AFB, Calif., responsible for flight testing of the Skystreak and Skyrocket, as well as the F3D, F4D, A2D, A3D, and F5D.



Thomas W. Briggs

In 1959, Briggs became staff assistant to the Skybolt program manager at Douglas' Culver City missile and space engineering location. He was given responsibility for coordinating with Boeing Aircraft, A.V. Roe, Ltd. of Manchester, England. He devoted considerable effort to the master phasing schedule, negotiation of the Douglas-Boeing intercompany management agreements and cost and schedule negotiations with the United Kingdom Ministry of Aviation.

He held that position until joining MSC in September, 1961.

An avid fisherman and hunter, Briggs owns “seven or eight guns” for deer and bird stalking, and longs to go fishing in the Gulf for tarpon sometime soon. His wife, Joyce, son Jeffrey, 10, and daughter Judith, 13, are in the process of moving to Houston. Jeffrey may be interested in becoming an astronaut someday, but Judith is more concerned at the moment with finding a riding stable near her new Houston home.

Driver in Personnel Office in the E&O Building.

Listed in order are base annual salary, the old rate of employee's quarterly payment, and the new rate.

Less than \$4,000, \$2.90, \$2.80; \$4,000 but less than \$5,000, \$5.80, \$5.60; \$5,000 but less than \$6,000, \$8.70, \$8.40; \$6,000 but less than \$7,000, \$10.15, \$9.80; \$7,000 but less than \$8,000, \$11.60, \$11.20; \$8,000 but less than \$10,000, \$14.50, \$14.00; \$10,000 but less than \$12,000, \$17.40, \$16.80; \$12,000 but less than \$14,000, \$20.30, \$19.60; and \$14,000 and over \$21.75, \$21.00.





**IN FRONT OF THE HOME** in which he was raised, on what has now been re-named Grissom St., Astronaut and Mrs. Virgil I. Grissom and sons Scott, 12, and Mark, 8 visit with friends and neighbors in his home town of Mitchell, Ind. (Indianapolis Star photo)



**INDIANA'S HIGHEST AWARD**, the Distinguished Service Cross, is pinned on Grissom by Governor Matthew E. Welsh at the June 16 homecoming celebration. (Indianapolis Star photo)



**THOUSANDS WITNESSED** the ceremonies in Mitchell as Grissom and his wife, Betty climb the platform to get awards. (Indianapolis Star photo)



**THE PLANET PATROL** was on hand, too, as 12-year-old Stephen Meadows of Mitchell dressed up for Grissom's homecoming in his space shirt. (Louisville Courier-Journal photo)

## Red Carpet Out For The Boy From Baker Street

Astronaut and Air Force Captain "Gus" Grissom returned to his hometown as a Kentucky Colonel June 16, and the small southern Indiana town went wild.

The Kentucky "Kunneley," awarded in Louisville the night before, was only one of the honors which showered on the MA-5 pilot on his trip to Mitchell, Indiana, the town he grew up in.

The Mitchell Tribune, in a special edition, bannered it "OUR GUS COMES HOME."

Grissom slept for the first time on Grissom Avenue—until recently Baker Street—in the house in which he was raised.

The city dedicated its new Mitchell Junior-Senior High School in his honor, and Grissom laid the cornerstone.

At a formal program in Lehigh Park he received Indiana's highest award, the Distinguished Service Cross, from Indiana Governor Matthew E. Welsh for "outstanding, heroic action."

Thomas W. Evans, president of the Indiana Society of Chicago, presented the society's 1961 Father-Son award to Dennis Grissom and his astronaut son.

He received a family gift from his 1944 graduating class at Mitchell High School; a statuette for meritorious service

in scouting; a certificate of honorary membership in Explorer Air Squadron Boy Scouts; a Junior Chamber of Commerce award; and a \$2,200 science scholarship from the Indiana Kappa Kappa Kappa Sorority to Indiana University's Science Talent Search program in his honor.

The Bedford Municipal Airport in Lawrence County was renamed Virgil Grissom Field.

He was made an honorary member of his wife's sorority, Epsilon Sigma Alpha.

Said Gus, "This is overwhelming."

"Not often in one day can you become a colonel, a member of a sorority, and have a

high school dedicated to you that you thought you'd never get out of."

Among those at the Lehigh Field program were Senator Homer E. Capehart, Congressman Earl Wilson and Frederick L. Hovde, president of Purdue University, from which Grissom graduated in 1950.

Hovde, noting that Grissom is one of six Purdue graduates now active or about to enter the space program, said the school is the "leading space academy of the world."

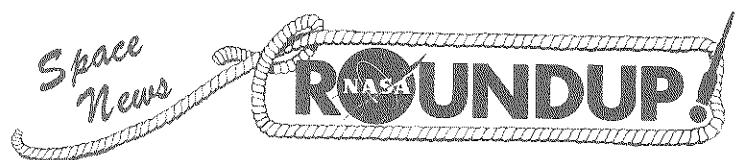
Capehart, noting he was sure Grissom would someday go to the moon, asked him to take "a persimmon seed, a watermelon seed, and two pieces of fried

chicken, and if there is anybody on the moon and they ask you where it came from—tell 'em Indiana."

A band from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base played "Back Home Again in Indiana" and six jets of the Kentucky Air Guard made three low sweeps of the field at the beginning of the program as Grissom and his wife Betty looked up.

The traveling party included Grissom and Betty, sons Mark, 8, and Scott, 12, his father, Dennis D. Grissom and his mother Ceceile, brothers Norman, 32, and Lowell, 28, and their wives.





## SECOND FRONT PAGE

## UNC Sociologist Appointed NASA Asst. In Public Affairs

Appointment of Dr. George L. Simpson, Jr., University of North Carolina Sociologist, as Assistant Administrator for Public Affairs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has been announced by James E. Webb, NASA Administrator.

Dr. Simpson will assume his new duties September 1.

He succeeds Dr. Hiden T. Cox who came to NASA under a six-month leave of absence from his permanent position.

As Executive Director of the American Institute of Biological Sciences, Dr. Cox will resume his duties with the AIBS July 1.

Until September 1 when he formally takes office, Simpson will function in NASA's Public Affairs field as a consultant.

Appointment of Simpson as Assistant Administrator brings a representative of the social sciences into a working relationship with NASA's physical science efforts and underlines the agency's awareness of the social and economic impact of its accelerating space program in both national and regional aspects.

Simpson, 40, has specialized in regional development. In 1956 he became executive director of the Research Triangle Committee of North Carolina. The committee drew together the resources of the state government, industry and the research potential of Duke University, the University of North Carolina and North Carolina State for the expansion of scientific activity in the south. Regional studies at the University of North Carolina

were a major force leading to formation of the research triangle effort.

The University of North Carolina, where Simpson has served since 1955 as a Professor of Sociology and a Research Professor in the University's Institute for Research in Social Science, became known as a center for regional studies under the leadership of the later Dr. Howard W. Odum. Simpson worked for many years in close association with Odum and is now in the process of revising Odum's book, "Southern Regions of the United States."

The new assistant administrator has served as a consultant on area development to Governor Terry Sanford of North Carolina, and his representative to the conference

(Continued on Page 4)



**MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT** Center Director Wernher von Braun visited MSC Tuesday of last week to confer with Apollo Project personnel in connection with the Saturn booster. Left to right are Paul E. Purser, special assistant to the director, Astronaut Walter Schirra, Von Braun and Director Robert R. Gilruth.

## Glenn Spacecraft 'Orbits' World Taking More Time This Trip

Friendship 7, the spacecraft in which Astronaut John Glenn made three rapid orbits of the earth Feb. 20, is making quite a hit on its forth world tour these days, although this one is being conducted at a much slower rate.

Beginning April 19 at Hamilton, Bermuda, the spacecraft has so far been in eighteen countries and today will make it twenty, when it is transferred from Bombay, W. India to

Columbo, Ceylon.

Seven more countries are on the itinerary before Friendship 7 returns to Seattle, Wash. and its final appearance.

NASA-MSC and U. S. Information Agency officials, have been accompanying the spacecraft in relays to give lectures and answer questions at public appearances. With it in India and Ceylon at the moment is G. Merritt Preston, chief of Preflight Operations

Division, and two USIA personnel.

From Ceylon the spacecraft goes to Rangoon, Burma; Bangkok, Thailand; Djakarta, Indonesia and Sydney, Australia, accompanied by John J. Williams, of Preflight Operations; then to Manila, Philippines; Tokyo, Japan; Seoul, Korea; and back to Seattle with Kenneth S. Kleinknecht, manager of Project Mercury.

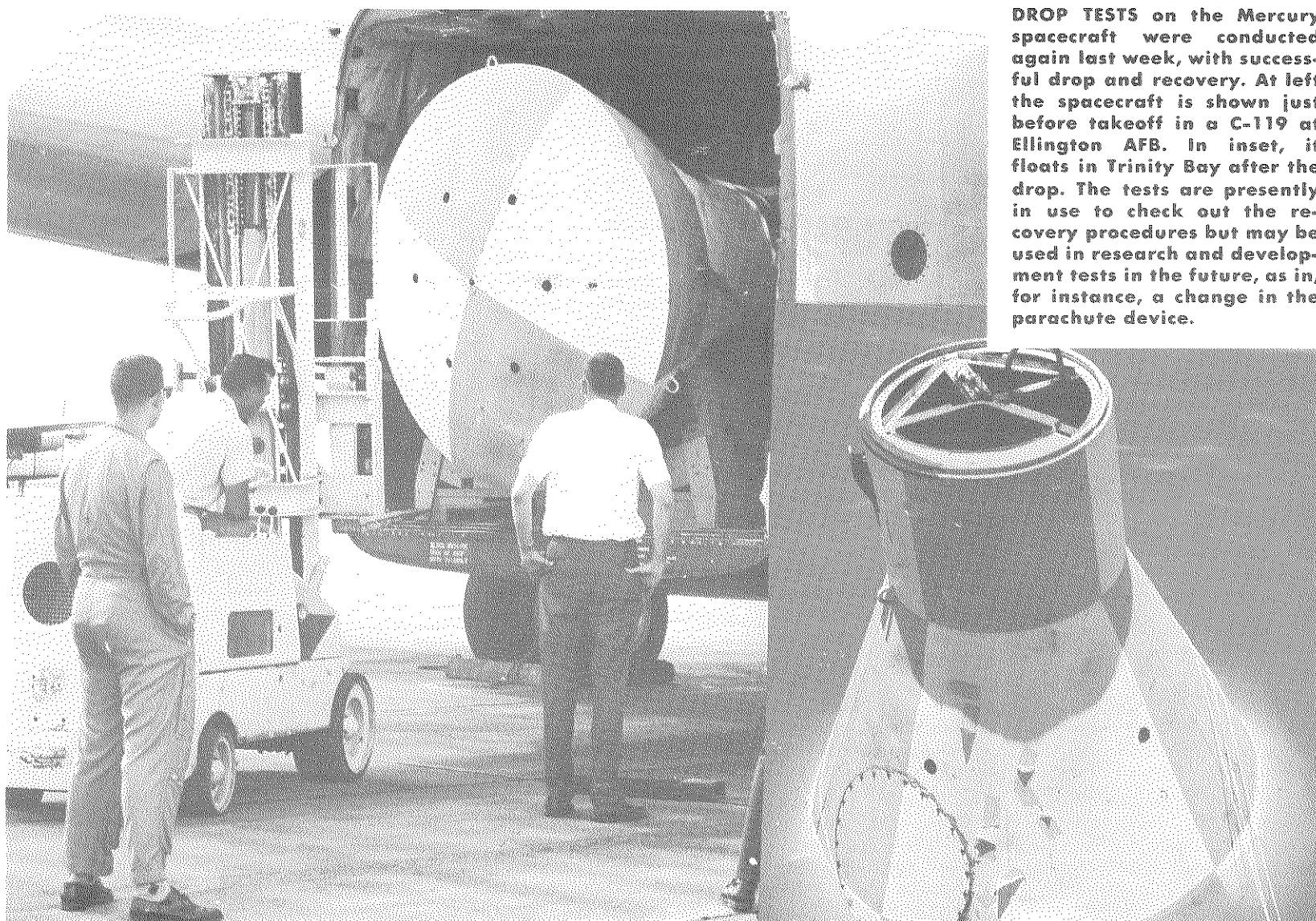
Since mid-April in Bermuda, the spacecraft toured South America (Bogata, Columbia; Santiago, Chile; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Rio De Janeiro, Brazil; Mexico City) in the company of Arnold D. Aldrich, Flight Operations Division; Donald Gregory, technical assistant to the director; Cloe Wood, of the Office of Programs, NASA Headquarters and Richard S. Johnston, Assistant chief of Life Systems Division.

Of its two-day Mexico City stand, Gregory commented, "We turned them away in crowds at closing time. They stood in line for hours. Their only complaint was that we didn't give them long enough to look."

After a brief return to McDonnell Aircraft in St. Louis, Mo. for repairs and a half-day appearance at Dover, Del., the spacecraft went to Europe—to London, Paris, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, Madrid—then to Africa.

An estimated 40,000 persons inspected the spacecraft during its three-day stay in London, and according to Johnston the measure of interest shown was excellent. In addition to the general questions which

(Continued on Page 4)



**DROP TESTS** on the Mercury spacecraft were conducted again last week, with successful drop and recovery. At left the spacecraft is shown just before takeoff in a C-119 at Ellington AFB. In inset, it floats in Trinity Bay after the drop. The tests are presently in use to check out the recovery procedures but may be used in research and development tests in the future, as in, for instance, a change in the parachute device.